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2012 Christmas & Winter Markets & Fairs & Events in the Netherlands

Aartswoud

Dec. 8-9: *Christmas in Aartswoude*. On both days between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. visitors can visit the beautiful farms and houses decorated for Christmas. If you see the Christmas route flag outside you are welcome to enter and enjoy what they have to offer. Start is on Schoolstraat and Zuiderzeestraat. Entry is free.

Alkmaar

Dec. 14-30: *Christmas Market* at squares and in streets around Grote Kerk and Canadaplein in the center. Open: Mon-Sat, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sun, 1 to 10 p.m. Closed Dec. 17 & 25.

Almere

Dec. 9: *Christmas Market* in the harbor on Sluiskade from 2 to 8 p.m.

Amstenrade

Nov. 17-18: Attractive *Winter Christmas Fair* at flower and plant nursery Castle Amstenrade in Amstenrade. Open: Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Nov. 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.50.

Apeldoorn

Nov. 14-18: *Spirit of Winter Fair*: Royal enjoyment in a winter garden. The park of Palace Het Loo near the town of Apeldoorn is turned into a magical winter garden filled with all kind of winter fest ideas. The outdoor fair has many stands with lots of exclusive items such as crystal; furniture; silver; China as well as plants and Christmas decorations. The fair will show you how attractive and warm your winter home and garden can be. Entry: €17.50 and this includes entrance to the palace as well; children 12 and younger have free entrance. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dec. 18-Jan. 6: At *Christmas at Palace "Het Loo"* located on Koninklijk Park 1 in Apeldoorn visitors will get a glimpse of what Christmas used to be like with the Dutch Royal Family in the past 300 years. The beautifully laid tables and yuletide greenery transform the palace in a very attractive Christmas setting. Open: Tuesdays-Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; also open on Dec. 25-26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed on Mondays. Entry: €12.50; children (6-17) €4.

Appelscha

Dec. 8-9: *Nostalgic Christmas Market & Winter Fair* at the attractive illuminated edge of the forest in Appelscha (Prov. Friesland) near National Park World with besides many stands lots of attractions and things to do! No entrance fee. Open: Dec. 8, 2 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Arnhem

Dec. 7-9: Large indoor *Christmas Market* at Rijnhal in Arnhem. Entry: €6; children 11 and younger have free entrance. Open: Dec. 7 & 9, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Baard

Dec. 15: *Christmas Market* in the center of Baard. The market is especially known for its large offer of mistletoe and therefore also named the Mistletoe Christmas Market. Santa's reindeers will also be present. Open: noon to 6 p.m. No entrance fees.

Barneveld

Dec. 13-15: Attractive *Winter Fair* held on Peutweg 18 in Barneveld from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Beerta

Dec. 16: *Dickens Day Beerta* is a Christmas market in Dickens style with many characters from Dickens' novels, street music and crafts. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Beesd

Dec. 6-9: Attractive *Christmas Country Fair* at “Heerlijkheid Mariënwaerd” estate near the town of Beesd. The estate is a perfect background for this fair. The main house is open to the public; there will be choirs and more than 80 stands with a variety of Christmas articles. Sledge rides are also available. Open: Dec. 6 & 9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Dec. 7-8, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Entry: €10; children 11 and younger have free entrance. Take A2 highway Utrecht-Den Bosch; exit at #14 Beesd. Follow signs “Kerstfair”.

Beetsterzwaag

Dec. 11: Attractive *Christmas Fair* in Dickens style held from 3 to 9 p.m. at Hoofdstraat in the center of town.

Belfeld

Nov. 24: *Winter Market* at Koninginneplein and Muldersplein in the center of Belfeld. Open: noon to 8 p.m.

Bemmel

Dec. 9: Large *Christmas Market* in the attractive center of Bemmel. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bennekom

Dec. 14-15: *Dickens Fair* in the attractive village center. Open: Dec. 14, 3 to 9 p.m.; Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bergen

Dec. 16: *Christmas Market* at the grounds around the church ruins in the idyllic town of Bergen. The market is open from noon to 6 p.m. and has also entertainment, fashion shows and an indoor terrace.

Berlicum

Dec. 14: Small but attractive *Christmas Market* held in the center around the church. Open: 5 to 10 p.m.

Best

Dec. 8-9 & 15-16: The *Christmas Market* in the greenhouse of Perkplantenkwekerij Leijten on Broekstraat is a real Christmas event with lots of decorations, gifts, toys, clothes, entertainment and more. Santa will visit also and he has some gifts for the smallest among us. Open: noon to 7 p.m.

Blerick

Nov. 18: *Sinterklaas Fair* from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on St. Hubertusplein and Albert Thijmstraat.

Dec. 9: Small but attractive *Christmas Market* in the center of Blerick. Open: noon to 5 p.m.

Bocholtz

Dec. 2: *Christmas Market* in the center of Bocholtz. This is the only Market in the Netherlands where you can meet both Sinterklaas and Santa Claus. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Born

Dec. 16: Small *Christmas Market* from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Castle Park in Born.

Breda

Dec. 15-16: *Winter Festival*, located on Ginnekenmarkt in the city of Breda has a Christmas Market with more than 100 stands, rides, two stages for performances and lots more. Open both days from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Brielle

Dec. 16: *Christmas Market* in the center of Brielle. Open: noon to 5 p.m.

Bronkhorst

Dec. 15-16: The *Christmas Fair* in the smallest town of the Netherlands is very nostalgic with old crafts demonstrations and lots more. Scrooge is waiting for you in the town's Dickens Museum. Open both days 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Brunssum

Dec. 1: *Christmas Fayre* from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Afnorth International School with International vendors; great raffle prizes, festive food, Father Christmas, the School Choir and Band and fun and games for all the family!

Bunschoten-Spakenburg

Nov. 29: *Wintermarkt* from 3 to 9 p.m. in the center on Oude Schans.

Buren

Dec. 8-9: *Christmas Market* held in the gardens of the KMAR Museum on Weeshuiswal 9. Open both days noon to 5 p.m.

Culemborg

Dec. 14: Attractive *Christmas Market* in the historic center of Culemborg from 3 to 9 p.m.

De Hoef

Dec. 16: A traditional and nostalgic *Christmas Market* is held from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Church Square in the center of this picturesque little town. Santa and his reindeers will visit as well.

De Steeg

Dec. 11-16: *Christmas at Castle Middachten*. The castle near the town of De Steeg is beautifully decorated for Christmas and opens its doors to the public. A *Christmas Market* is held in the castle's outbuildings. Open all days 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Entry: €10; children (4-12) €5.

Delft

Dec. 11: The *Evening of Light* is a heartwarming event in the dark days before Christmas in the center of Delft. The city is in the spirit all afternoon awaiting the highlight of the day which is the lighting of the enormous Christmas tree on Market Square in the center. The event starts at 4 p.m.

Den Bosch/'s-Hertogenbosch

Nov. 8-11: *Christmas Creations Fair* at Brabanthallen in 's-Hertogenbosch or Den Bosch. The indoor fair gives you hundreds of ideas how to attractively decorate your home for the festivities. Besides the many stands it also offers live music; food tastings; workshops and many nice attractions for children. Entry: €11.50; children 12 and younger €6. Open all days 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Den Ham

Dec. 15: The historic *Christmas Market* at the attractive village center is also the stage for a play in which 200 inhabitants of the village take part. The play is set in the years 1800-1811 and several scenes, each with a different plot but all from the same time, tells us from a time in which the French were occupying the Netherlands. The event is open noon to 8 p.m.

Deventer

Dec. 13-15: *Christmas Market* at Lebuïnuskerk in the center of Deventer. Open: Dec. 13, 2 to 9 p.m.; Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €2.50; children 11 and younger have free entrance. Entrance is at Grote Kerkhof onder de Toren.

Dec. 15-16: *Dickens Fest*. The historical Bergkwartier in the center of Deventer is changed into a city from Dickens' famous "A Christmas Carol". Both days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. about 350 Victorian personalities and characters from Dickens' stories will walk around the center of the town. A large *Christmas Market* is held in the center on Dec. 16.

Didam

Dec. 8-9: The *Winterfair-Montferland*, held in the beautiful setting of the "Baerle" Estate, is a Christmas Antique/Curiosa/Country Fair with lots of stands, entertainment and activities. Open: Dec. 8, 1 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €7; children €2 (incl. softdrink).



Diepenheim

Dec. 9: *Christmas Market* in the center from noon to 6 p.m.

Doenrade

Nov. 24-25: *Christmas at Villa Vieux* on Kerkstraat in Doenrade (Prov. Limburg) is a small indoor market with Villa Vieux new winter and Christmas collection and lots more. Open: Nov. 24, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and again 7 to 9 p.m. and Nov. 25, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dec. 9: Attractive *Christmas Market* around “de Kloes” in Doenrade. Open: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Doesburg

Dec. 8: *Christmas Market* in the historic center of Doesburg with sleigh rides and a visit of Santa Claus and Mr. Scrooge! Open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Doetinchem

Dec. 13-15: Indoor *Christmas Market* at Cultuurcentrum ‘t Brewinc on IJsselkade 13. Open: Dec. 13, 6 to 9 p.m.; Dec. 14, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dokkum

Dec. 14: *Christmas Fair* in the old streets of this historic town with Dickens characters, lots of stands and entertainment. Open: 1:30 to 9 p.m.

Dordrecht

Dec. 14-16: Large *Christmas Market* in the historic center of Dordrecht. The medieval large Church and its garden are transformed into a Christmas/Winterland and the more than 250 stands on Groenmarkt and Voorstraat can’t be missed. Open: Dec. 14-15, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Dec. 16, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dec. 14-Jan. 2: *Christmas Ice Skating Rink* at Scheffersplein in the center of Dordrecht. Open: Mondays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sundays & Dec. 24-26 & Dec. 31-Jan. 1, noon to 6 p.m. Entry: €4.

Drunen

Nov. 22-25: The indoor *Christmas Fair* at “de Voorste Venne” on Afrikalaan 100 in Drunen is a lifestyle fair with a wide offer of antiques, home decorations, fashion, art and culinary delicacies. Due to its authenticity the event and the location is the perfect setting to get in the mood for the Holidays. Open: Nov. 22-23, 4 to 10 p.m.; Nov. 24, noon to 10 p.m. and Nov. 25, noon to 6 p.m.

Dec. 16: *Christmas Shopping in Dickens style* in the center from noon to 5 p.m. The town goes back 200 years in time and characters from Dickens books can be seen in the streets. The whole center is changed in to a lively 19th century scene.

Eersel

Dec. 9: The “Burgundian” *Christmas Market* in the center of Eersel is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. No entry fees.

Eindhoven

Dec. 1-Jan. 6: *Winter Festival* with ice skating rink, stands and lots of other entertainment in the center of Eindhoven. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.



Elburg

Dec. 14-15: *Christmas in the fortified city.* During these two days the town of Elburg travels 100 years back in time. In and around the center you will find lots of activities, a Christmas Market and more. Open: Dec. 14, 5 to 10 p.m. and Dec. 15, noon to 9 p.m.

Elsloo

Dec. 9: Nostalgic *Christmas Market* held in Maaslandcentrum from noon to 5 p.m.

Elst

Dec. 15-16: Magical *Christmas Market* with Ice-skating rink in the center of town. Open: Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Dec. 16, noon to 6 p.m.

Emmeloord

Dec. 15: The *Christmas Market* in the center is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Enkhuizen

Dec. 15-16 & Dec. 22-Jan. 6: At *Magical Winterland* at Fairy Tale Park Enkhuizen on Kooizandweg 9 visitors will encounter many fairy tale figures and winter surprises. Entry: €9. Open: 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 24 & 31, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Dec. 25 & Jan. 1.

Ermelo

Dec. 21: From 4 to 9 p.m. *Christmas Market* in the center of Ermelo.

Franeker

Dec. 9: Semi covered *Christmas Market* in the center with many stands, rides, live music and more. Open: 1 to 5 p.m.

Geertruidenberg

Dec. 8: A small but very attractive *Christmas Market* is held from 3 to 9 p.m. on Market Square in the center of the fortified town Geertruidenberg.

Gouda

Dec. 2: *Christmas Fair* from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Market Square in the center.

Dec. 11: *Candle-Night* in Gouda. Thousands of candles are lit in the windows of the beautiful town hall and every window of the houses around the Market Square. Highlight of the evening will be without doubt the lighting of the beautiful Christmas tree in the center of the square. This scenic event draws many people every year and starts at 7 p.m.

Groesbeek

Dec. 9: *Christmas Market* from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Market Square.

Dec. 16: Attractive *Christmas Market* from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Kerkplein in the center.

Groningen

Dec. 15-16: The *Christmas Market* is held at the same time as the *Winter Richness Event* at the “Hoge en Lage der A” Quay about 5 minutes walking distance from the center of the city. All activities (including the market) are held at 15 historic charter boats. Open both days from noon to 6 p.m.

The *Happy Craftmas Market* is a unique alternative Christmas Market with only handcrafted decorations, clothes, jewelry and other Christmas gifts. It is held at Munnekeholm 1.

Haarlem

Dec. 16: Attractive *Christmas Market* at Grote Markt, Botermarkt and Koningstraat in the center of Haarlem. Open: 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Haarzuilens

Nov. 21-25: The *Country & Christmas Fair* at Castle De Haar near the town of Haarzuilens is an attractive fair in the beautiful setting of the castle. This year is the 14th anniversary of the fair and it is one of the largest and certainly most beautiful Christmas and Lifestyle fairs in The Netherlands with more than 200 stands with exclusive articles, attractive accessories and festive novelties. Open: Nov. 21-24, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Nov. 25, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €16.50; children (12-16) €10.





Hardenberg

Nov. 23-25: *Winter Fair 2010* is an attractive indoor fair held at Evenementenhal on Energieweg in Hardenberg. Open: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €8; children 11 and younger €4.

Harderwijk

Dec. 14-16: *Christmas Carol Harderwijk* is an attractive Christmas Market in Dickens style held at the Vischmarkt in the town. Open: Dec. 14, 3 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Dec. 16, 1 to 5 p.m.

Harlingen

Dec. 15: Attractive and unique *Christmas Market* along the canal in one of the oldest Hanseatic towns of Friesland. Open: 3 to 9 p.m.

Hattem

Dec. 14: Cozy *Winter Market* in the center around the Grote Kerk from 2 to 9 p.m.

Heemskerk

Nov. 25: Attractive *Christmas Fair* in the beautiful decorated and illuminated Castle Assumburg from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €1.50.

Heenvliet

Dec. 15: Small but attractive *Christmas Market* held on Market Square in the old village center. Open: 3 to 9 p.m.

Heeswijk-Dinther

Dec. 16: *Christmas at Castle Heeswijk* in Heeswijk-Dinther near Den Bosch. The castle, beautifully decorated, is the perfect setting for a traditional *Christmas Market*. Open: noon to 5 p.m. Entry: €7; children (4-12) €3.50.

Heinkenszand

Nov. 23-25: Indoor *Winter Fair* in the halls of Flower Garden Center Wisse on Zwake 7 in Heinkenszand. Open: Nov. 23, 2 to 9 p.m.; Nov. 24, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Nov. 25, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Helmond

Dec. 9: *Dickensnight* in the center of the Brandevoort quarter in Helmond. The center is changed into a market from England in the 1850s. Victorian personalities and characters from Dickens' stories will walk around as well and there is besides an attractive *Christmas Market* also lots of entertainment. Open: 2 to 8 p.m.

Hilvarenbeek

Dec. 8-9: Attractive *Christmas Fair* in Bezoekerscentrum De Flierefluiter on Groot Loo 8. Entry: €3.50. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hilversum

Dec. 15: *Winter Fair* at Zonnestraal Estate in the forest and heath of Hilversum. The fair is held at a former sanitarium designed by renowned Dutch architect Duiker. Open: noon to 8 p.m. Entry: €1; children (6-17) €0.50.

Hoogvliet

Dec. 8: *Christmas Market* in the center of Hoogvliet near Rotterdam is open 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Hoorn

Dec. 23: Attractive *Christmas Market* in the historic center of Hoorn. Open: noon to 5 p.m.

Hulst

Dec. 14: From 6 to 11 p.m. attractive *Midwinter Festival* in the center of the fortified city of Hulst.

Kaatsheuvel

Nov. 8-Feb. 3: *Winter Efteling* at Efteling Amusement & Fairy Tale Park in Kaatsheuvel on Europalaan near Tilburg offers good old-fashion winter fun. Open: weekdays, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; weekends & Dec. 22 – Jan. 6, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Dec. 31, 11 to 1 p.m. Closed on Jan. 1. Entry: €32.

Kampen

Dec. 21-22: Christmas Market in the beautiful surroundings of the old Hanseatics center from 5 to 10 p.m.

Kerkrade

Dec. 1-2, 8-9 & 15-16: *Christmas Market* held at the beautiful 900 years old Abbey Rolduc in Kerkrade. Open all days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.50.

Lisse-Keukenhof

Dec. 6-9: A *Christmas Fair* is held in and around Castle Keukenhof which is across the street of the famous gardens and near the town of Lisse. The court and Castle are nicely decorated and at the more than 100 stands you will find besides the usual Christmas decorations and articles also accessories and delicacies and of course plants and flowers. The Castle itself can also be visited. Open: Dec. 6, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 7-8, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Dec. 9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €8; children 11 and younger – free entrance.

Maarsbergen

Nov. 13-15: An attractive *Winter Fair* is held in Kaasboerderij (cheese farm) “De Weistaar” on Rottegatsteeg 6 in Maarsbergen with lots of home and garden decorations; delicatessen; flowers; plants; demonstrations; live music; fashion; jewelry and lots of good food. Open: Nov. 13-14, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Nov. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €7.50; children 11 and younger – free entrance.

Maaskantje/Den Dungen

Dec. 8: Small but attractive *Christmas Market* is held at Maaskantje with live music, many local delicacies and of course Christmas decorations and gifts. Santa will visit and there will be demonstrations of old crafts. Open: 3:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Maastricht

Nov. 30-Dec. 31: *Magical Maastricht*. The city of Maastricht can be called Christmas Town with reason this year. The Vrijthof is transformed into a large ice-skating rink. There are many traditional and nostalgic attractions and *Christmas Markets* at several locations in the center, new is the market on Kesselskade along the river. Maastricht with Christmas is fun for young and old. Open Mondays-Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 6 p.m.; Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Dec. 25-26.

Medemblik

Dec. 14: During *Dickens' Day* at the *Christmas Market* in Bagijnhof, Nieuwstraat and Van Houweningenpark you will meet all kind of characters from Dickens novels. Scrooge will be present of course as well as Fagan and his gang.

Dec. 14-15: An indoor *Christmas Fair* is held in the Bonifatius Church on Kerkplein 9. Open: 2 to 9 p.m. Open: Dec. 14, 2 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mesch

Dec. 1-2 & 8-9: Attractive *Christmas Market* held at De Laathof Farm on Langstraat in Mesch near Eijsden. No entrance fee. Open all days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Monnickendam

Dec. 9: *Christmas Market* from noon to 6 p.m. in the center of Monnickendam.





Montfort

Dec. 2: The indoor *Christmas Market* at Sports Hall on Achter de Hoven in Montfort is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Naaldwijk

Dec. 14-15: Attractive indoor *Christmas Market* in the restored Oude Kerk on Wilhelminaplein (square) in Naaldwijk. Open: Dec. 14, 3 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Naarden

Nov. 8-11: The *La Table Fair* is held at Grote Kerk in the center of the fortified city of Naarden. This attractive Christmas Fair features festive table settings. Over 50 exhibitors display antique and modern china, silverware, glassware, wines and more. Entry: €15; children 13 and younger have free entrance. Open: Nov. 8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Nov. 9, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Nov. 10-13, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dec. 8: *Christmas Market* from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Ruysdaelplein in the center of fortified Naarden.

Nederweert-Eind

Dec. 26-27: At the *Eynder Winter Fest* in the Open Air Museum “Eynderhoof” on Milderspaat 1 in Nederweert-Eind. In a world of mystery and enchantment you will find a village from Dickens time with characters from A Christmas Carol, Santa, the wise men, ghosts, music and lots more. Open both days 3 to 8 p.m. Entry: €5; children (4-12) €3.

Neede

Dec. 8-9: Attractive in- and outdoor *Midwinter Fest* in the center of town. Open: Dec. 8, 1 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 9, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nijkerk

Dec. 8: *Christmas Market* from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the center of town.

Nijmegen

Dec. 23-24: From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. *Christmas Market* in the center of one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands.

Noordwijk-Noordwijkerhout

Dec. 1-Jan. 8: Attractive and large *Christmas Village at the Seaside* in and near Noordwijk.

Dec. 15-16: *Winterfest 1850* takes you back to the year 1850 with many historic figures and other activities.

Dec. 17-18: *Leeuwenhorst Christmas Fair*. Hotel Leeuwenhorst on Langelaan between the towns of Noordwijk and Noordwijkerhout near the beach is the perfect setting for this Christmas Fair with Christmas decorations, exclusive delicacies, wines and lots more. Entry: €8; children 12 and younger – free entrance. Open: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Oosterhout

Dec. 9: From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. *Christmas Market* in and around De Seterse Hoeve (Farm) on Vijf Eikenweg 56.

Oud Kampen

Dec. 21-22: *Christmas in Oud Kampen*. In this weekend the old center of Oud Kampen is changed into a real Christmas town with a Christmas Market; theater; food tastings and lots more. Open both days 5 to 10 p.m. No entrance fees.

Ouderkerk aan den IJssel

Dec. 7-8: *Christmas Fair* in Dickens style with lots of entertainment and surprises. Entry is free. Open: Dec. 7, 4 to 11 p.m. and Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Ravenstein

Dec. 15: *Ravenstein at Candlelight*. Starting at 3 p.m. a *Christmas Market* can be found at the small squares in the center of Ravenstein. At 7 p.m. when the church bells ring all lights will go out and everyone in the center will light candles in the windows of the historic buildings. Ravenstein at candlelight is an attractive event and worth a visit.

Roden

Dec. 15: A German traditional *Christmas Market* is held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the center of town.

Rolde

Nov. 25: *Christmas Market* in the center of Rolde. The fair has, besides of course the many stands with Christmas articles, also folklore, theater, song, music, and old crafts from English past. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Rotterdam

Nov. 16-18: *Swedish Christmas Fair* at Swedish Naval Church (Zweedse Zeemanskerk) on Parklaan 5 in Rotterdam. This is the opportunity to buy Swedish quality items, handcrafts, Christmas decorations, glass, textiles, food and sweets. Coffee with Swedish cinnamon buns, cakes, sandwiches, gluhwine and gingerbread is served! Open: Nov. 16, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Nov. 17-18, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Nov. 22-25 & Dec. 1-2: Indoor *Finnish Christmas Market* at Finnish Naval Church (Finse Zeemanskerk) on 's-Gravendijkwal in Rotterdam with lots of Finnish articles and delicacies. Open: Nov. 22, 4 to 9 p.m.; Nov. 23, 1 to 9 p.m.; Nov. 24-25 & Dec. 1-2, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. No entrance fees.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2: *Danish Christmas Fair* at Danish Naval Church (Deense Zeemanskerk) on Coolhaven 1-7 in Rotterdam with all kinds of Danish products. Open: Nov. 30-Dec.1, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Dec. 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 6-9: Indoor *Winter Fair* at Ahoy 1 in Rotterdam offers everything you need for the coming holiday season! Open: Dec. 6, 5 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 7-9, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €8. More Info: www.winter-fair.nl.

Dec. 14-16: The *Christmas Market* at Minervaplein has all day music, rides and other winter fun! Open all days 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 22: A nice and cozy *Christmas Market* can be found around "Oude Kerk" (Old Church) on Charloisse Kerksingel in Rotterdam. Open: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Santpoort

Dec. 9: Attractive *Christmas Market* from noon to 6 p.m. in the festive decorated center of town.

Schimmert

Nov. 12-Dec. 24: Authentic and attractive Christmas Show at Lupa Outdoors Vijvercentrum Limburg on Op de Bies 70 in Schimmert. Open: Mondays, 1 to 5:30 p.m.; Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturdays-Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Siddeburen

Dec. 7: *Christmas Market* on Hoofdweg and in the center from 3 to 9 p.m.

Simpelveld

Dec. 14-16: Unique evening *Christmas Fair* at Damiaan Abbey on Pater Damiaanstraat 38. Entry: €2.50. Open: Dec. 14-15, 6 to 10 p.m. and Dec. 16, 3 to 9.

Sint-Oedenrode

Dec. 9: *Winter Fair* with lots of activities in the center of town from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sittard

Dec. 9: *Christmas Fair* held at Romeinenstraat 20 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Dec. 9-Jan.6: *Winter Dream* with rides; attractions; Ice-skating Rink and more on Market Square and center of Sittard.

Dec. 21-Jan.6: *Winter Circus* on Haspelsestraat.

Slochteren

Dec. 8-9: *Swedish Christmas Market* at the beautiful Fraeylemaborg Estate in Slochteren. Open both days 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €7.50; children 11 and younger free entrance.

Soest

Nov. 24-Dec. 23: *Christmas Market* with lots of activities at Tuinadviescentrum 't Vaarderhoogt on Dorresteinweg 72b in Soest. Open: Sat-Thu, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fri, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Closed on Sun.

Spaubeek

Nov. 23-Dec. 23: *Christmas Fair "Spirit of Christmas"* at Victorian House, Musschenberg 30 in Spaubeek with English antiques such as furniture, accessories and more. The fair is **only open** on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thorn

Dec. 9: The indoor *Christmas Market* at "De Grote Hegge" Manor in the white city of Thorn is considered the largest in the region. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry: €4; children 11 and younger – no entrance fee. An outdoor *Christmas Market* is held in the historic center of Thorn from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tiel

Dec. 16: *Dickens Christmas Market* from noon to 5 p.m. in the center of town.

Uithoorn

Dec. 9: Attractive *Christmas Market* in the center of Uithoorn from noon to 6 p.m.

Utrecht

Nov. 16-22: The indoor *Winter Fair* held in Jaarbeurs in Utrecht gives visitors a taste of the coming festive month. Entry: €20. Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dec. 22-Jan. 6: *Christmas at the Train Station*. This unique Christmas Market is held at the "Nederlandse Spoorwegmuseum" (Dutch Railway Museum) on Maliebaanstation in Utrecht. The beautiful illuminated coaches and the festively decorated platforms are a perfect setting for this Christmas event. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed on Jan. 1. Entry: €14.50.

Vaassen

Dec. 14-16: *Christmas Market* at the court of Castle Cannenburg, Maarten van Rossumplein 4 in the town of Vaassen. The castle is decorated for Christmas and is the perfect setting for this event. Entry to the Christmas Market is €2; children 12 and younger – free entrance. Entry to the castle is €5; children (3-12) €3. The market and the castle are open: Dec. 14, 1 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Dec. 16, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Valkenburg

Nov. 16-Jan. 6: *Valkenburg – Christmas Town*. Visiting the picturesque town of Valkenburg during the winter months is like stepping into the story of Charles Dickens. Romantically illuminated streets, decorated Christ-



mas trees and beautiful Christmas songs bring this little town alive. Enjoy the only Dutch town in real Christmas settings: in one of the many cozy restaurants and pubs, in the beautifully decorated shops, at the fine hotels, the sights and of course the unique Christmas markets in the caves. Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. and every Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m. a *Christmas Parade* with beautiful floats, dancers and animators will move through the center.

Nov. 16-Dec. 23: *Christmas Market* in Fluwelengrot (Velvet Cave) on Daalhemmerweg in the center of Valkenburg. A unique Christmas Market held in

the caves under the castle ruins. Open: Sundays-Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Fridays-Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Dec. 23, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €5; children (5-11) €3.

Nov. 16-Dec. 23: Another *Christmas Market in a cave* is located in Gemeentegrot on Cauberg 4 in the center of Valkenburg. Open on weekdays, noon to 9 p.m. and in weekends, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Dec. 23 open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entry: €5; children (5-11) €3.

Veere

Dec. 14-15: *Christmas Market* in Kleine Kerk on Kapellestraat 27 in town. Open: Dec. 14, 7 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dec. 15-16: *Christmas Market* in the center on Market Square from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Velden

Dec. 16: *Christmas Market* in and around the church in the center of town. Open: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vlaardingen

Dec. 14-15: *Christmas Market* around Grote Kerk at Market Square in the old, historic center of town. Open: Dec. 14, 5 to 10 p.m. and Dec. 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Voorthuizen

Dec. 28-29: *Medieval Midwinter Fest* with knights, Vikings, sword fights, camps, a medieval year market, spectacular shows and lots more on Stroetweg 7-9 in Voorthuizen. Open both days 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entry: €7.

Wezup

Dec. 14-16: The *Christmas Market* in the picturesque village of Wezup, between the towns of Emmen and Westerbork, is unique because it is held along and around several farms and has a rural character. As soon as it is dark the path along the old farms will be lighted by candles. Entry and parking is free. Open: Dec. 14, 7 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 15, 2 to 10 p.m.; Dec. 16, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wijk bij Duurstede

Dec. 16: *Christmas Market* in Dickens style in the historic center of Wijk bij Duurstede. Open: noon to 5 p.m. No entrance fees.

Wintelre

Dec. 14-15: At the *Dickens Festival* held on Willibrordusstraat in the center of Wintelre you will, while visiting the Christmas Market, meet many characters from the novels of Dickens. The streets are decorated as they would have been in Dickens time. Open: Dec. 14, 1 to 7 p.m. and Dec. 15, noon to 5 p.m. Entry: €3.

Wouwse Plantage

Dec. 13-16: Attractive *Christmas Fair* held at the Wouwse Plantage Estate on Plantage Centrum 1. Open: Dec. 13-15, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Dec. 16, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Entry: €14; children (4-14) €3.

Wychen

Dec. 15-16: The *Christmas Market* in the center of Wychen is open both days 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and has besides stands many other activities.

Zaandam

Dec. 9: *Christmas Market* in and around Bullekerk on Westzijde 75 from noon to 5 p.m.

Zoetermeer

Dec. 11-24: Attractive and popular *Christmas Market* at event terrain near Van Tuyllpark in Zoetermeer with lots of entertainment, activities, stands, etc. Open all days from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



Special Event - Pure Nostalgia in Limburg

Christmas Express

Nov. 18 & 25 & Dec. 2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 26-27, 30 & Jan. 2-3: On these days it is possible to travel to the Christmas Markets in Valkenburg and/or Maastricht in a very nostalgic way. Park your car at the train station in Simpelveld and climb aboard on one of the luxury first class carriages. The historic steam train will take you on a wondrous and relaxing journey through the beautiful Limburg scenery to the center of the Christmas City of Valkenburg. For tickets, reservations and more information go to www.zlsm.nl or call 0031-(0)45-5440018.

Old-fashioned steam train rides between Christmas and New Year

Dec. 26-27, 30 & Jan. 2-3: On these days you can enjoy a nostalgic winter fairy tale. A nostalgic steam train is very appropriate scenery for this special time of year. Enjoy a relaxing ride in the plush seats of the attractively decorated first class carriages. The train travels through the wonderful landscape of the hills of Limburg. The carriages are still heated in the old fashioned way and on the platform of the Simpelveld station you can enjoy a glass of Glühwein or hot chocolate. For more information and for advance bookings and reservations go to www.zlsm.nl or call 0031-(0)45-5440018.

